HOW MANY METRES?

TO ESTIMATE means to make a KNOWLEDGEABLE GUESS. You try to guess a number that seems **reasonable** even though it is not the **exact** answer. One way to make your measurement guess is to compare the length you are trying to guess with the length of something you already know. If the paper in this activity is 22.9 cm x 30.5 cm the length around the perimeter is 106.8 cm. That is slightly longer than a metre. How can this knowledge help you estimate the total number of metres in the picture?

CREATE a drawing by gluing yarn to construction paper. Cut pieces of yarn 1 metre long. Keep track of how many metres you use for your picture. Be sure to keep the number a secret.

SKETCH YOUR IDEAS HERE.

PRESENT your yarn drawings in small groups. Explain how you made the picture and any challenges you had as you worked on it. Point out areas that are expecially effective and why. Compare how each of you applied the yarn and how it affects the overall effectiveness of the pictures.

RESPOND to your classmates' yarn drawings. Take turns estimating how many metres are in each picture. Compare your estimates then explain how you came up with your guess. Once everyone has had a turn reveal the actual number of metres for each picture. Compare how reasonable each estimate is.

CONNECT this activity with how you use estimates in your life. Have you ever estimated how long it would take to get to your friend's house? Where else have you used estimating? Imagine you are in a store with $7.00 to spend and you want to spend it all. How would estimating be helpful?